Clipped from the mail

EDWARD S. HOYT sends along a clipping from his files that might interest railroad perfin fans. It concerns a slogan "The Route of Phoebe Snow" which was painted on the cars of the old Delaware, Lackawanna and Western Railroad and also used in DL&W advertisements. The DL&W perfin (D-78) is fairly common. It seems that Phoebe Snow was an advertising character created for the railroad. The DL&W used 90 percent clean burning anthracite coal in its steam engines while other railroads used all bituminous coal. The anthracite produced much less smoke and soot. Phoebe Snow was a beautiful girl standing on a rear observation platform in an allwhite dress, which helped make the point that DL&W engines didn't belch smoke and soot like other engines. Ed didn't send along an illustration of Phoebe, but perhaps someone can provide one we can share later.

